

Application No. 09/592,148
Amendment dated June 12, 2007
Reply to Office Action of March 12, 2007

Docket No.: 2950-0160P

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the figures with the Replacement Sheet of Figures 6A – 6F
attached herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 39, 41-45, 50-56 and 58-59 remain pending in the present application. Claims 39, 45, 51 and 56 are independent. By previous Replies, claims 1-38, 40, 46-49, 57 and 60-69 have been cancelled.

Preliminary Amendment filed on May 11, 2004 with New Assent

Upon review of the Office Action dated March 12, 2007, it appears that the Examiner has not considered the Preliminary Amendment dated May 11, 2004. In the present application, a Preliminary Amendment was filed on December 10, 2002, another Preliminary Amendment was filed on April 5, 2004, and another Preliminary Amendment was filed on May 11, 2004. For the Examiner's consideration, Applicant attaches hereto a copy of the filed Preliminary Amendment dated May 11, 2004 with a new Assent filed therewith. Therefore, reconsideration and examination of the application as amended by the three Preliminary Amendments are respectfully requested.

Related Reissue Application

At the Examiner's request at paragraph 6 on page 3 of the last Office Action, Applicant is currently looking into the mentioned applications to determine their relationship, if any, with the present application. If needed, the specification will be amended to update this information based on the determination.

Assent by Assignee

The Examiner has objected to the application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.172(a) because the Assignee has not established its ownership interest in the patent for which re-issue is being requested. However, Applicant has already filed on May 11, 2004 a new Assent which addresses this problem in the previously filed Assent. As mentioned above, a copy of the new Assent is attached hereto. In the new Assent, a statement that the person who signed the Assent of Assignee is authorized to act on behalf of the Assignee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.172(a) is included. Thus, this objection should be withdrawn.

Drawing Objection

The drawings have been objected to because Figures 6A – 6F appear to be illegible. To overcome this objection, more legible copies of these Figures are submitted herein as Replacement Sheets. No new matter is involved. Thus, the drawing objection should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

In view that Applicant has fully addressed the informal matters mentioned in the last Office Action, and no prior art rejection has been issued, it is believed that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and an indication of allowance of these claims is respectfully requested. In the alternative, in the event that the Examiner decides to issue an art rejection of the claims, such an Office Action should not be made final since the last Office Action contained no art rejection, and no claims have been amended by the present Reply.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons and in view of the above clarifying amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

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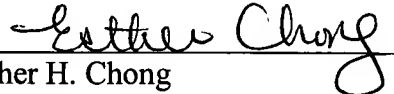
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: June 12, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Enclosed:

Copy of Preliminary Amendment filed May 11, 2004.

1 Replacement Sheet (Figures 6A-6F)

New Assent by Assignee